

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1 and 17 to 19 are cancelled and claims 2, 6, 11, 12, 16 and 20 are amended as set forth hereinafter.

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Currently Amended) The two-stroke engine of ~~claim 1~~ claim 20, said fuel metering system including a fuel-opening element defining a fuel opening and a control device operatively connected to said fuel-opening element.
3. (Original) The two-stroke engine of claim 2, said control device including a regulator needle for coacting with said fuel-opening element to control the free cross section of said fuel opening.
4. (Original) The two-stroke engine of claim 3, said control device including coupling means for coupling the position of said regulator needle to said throttle element.
5. (Previously Presented) A two-stroke internal combustion engine including an engine for a portable handheld work

apparatus, the internal combustion engine comprising:

a cylinder having a cylinder wall;

5 a piston mounted in said cylinder to undergo a reciprocating movement along a stroke path during operation of said engine;

said cylinder and said piston conjointly delimiting a combustion chamber;

a crankcase connected to said cylinder;

10 a crankshaft rotatably mounted in said crankcase;

a connecting rod connecting said piston to said crankshaft to permit said piston to drive said crankshaft as said piston reciprocates in said cylinder;

15 an outlet for conducting exhaust gases away from said combustion chamber;

at least one transfer channel for connecting said combustion chamber to said crankcase at predetermined positions of said piston;

20 an air channel for supplying combustion air into said crankcase;

a throttle element mounted in said air channel;

a separate fuel inlet in said crankcase;

a fuel metering system for metering fuel into said separate fuel inlet;

25 said fuel metering system including metering means for metering fuel in dependence upon at least one of the position of said throttle element and the rpm of said engine;

30 said fuel metering system including a fuel-opening element defining a fuel opening and a control device operatively connected to said fuel-opening element;

said control device including a regulator needle for  
coacting with said fuel-opening element to control the free cross  
section of said fuel opening;

said control device including coupling means for coupling  
35 the position of said regulator needle to said throttle element;

said throttle element being a throttle flap having a  
throttle shaft for pivotally mounting said throttle flap in said  
air channel; and,

said control device including a control cross section formed  
40 in said throttle shaft for acting on said regulator needle and  
said control cross section deviating from a circular form.

6. (Currently Amended) The two-stroke engine of ~~claim 1~~  
claim 20, wherein said fuel metering system includes an  
electromagnetic valve.

7. (Original) The two-stroke engine of claim 2, further  
comprising a fuel channel connected to said separate fuel inlet;  
and, said fuel metering system being disposed in said fuel  
channel and said fuel opening of said fuel-opening element  
5 opening into said fuel channel.

8. (Original) The two-stroke engine of claim 7, said fuel  
channel having an air inlet upstream of said fuel metering system  
for admitting air into said fuel channel as a carrier medium for  
the fuel metered by said fuel metering system.

9. (Original) The two-stroke engine of claim 8, further

comprising a membrane valve for connecting said separate fuel inlet to said crankcase.

10. (Original) The two-stroke engine of claim 8, further comprising a check valve for connecting said separate fuel inlet to said crankcase.

11. (Currently Amended) The two-stroke engine of ~~claim 1~~ claim 20, wherein said separate fuel inlet is piston controlled.

12. (Currently Amended) The two-stroke engine of ~~claim 1~~ claim 20, further comprising an air inlet arranged on said cylinder in the region of said piston; said air channel opening into said air inlet; and, said piston having a piston window and  
5 said air inlet communicating via said piston window and said transfer channel with said crankcase when said piston is in predetermined positions.

13. (Original) The two-stroke engine of claim 12, wherein said piston window extends over at least 10% of the periphery of said piston.

14. (Original) The two-stroke engine of claim 12, wherein said piston window extends over more than 40% of the periphery of said piston.

15. (Original) The two-stroke engine of claim 12, wherein said air channel opens directly into said crankcase at predetermined

positions of said piston.

16. (Currently Amended) The two-stroke engine of ~~claim 1~~  
claim 20, wherein said portable handheld work apparatus is one of  
a motor-driven chain saw and a cutoff machine.

Claims 17 to 19 (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) ~~The two-stroke engine of claim 1,~~  
~~wherein said two-stroke engine is a carburetorless engine~~  
A two-stroke internal combustion engine including an engine for a  
portable handheld work apparatus, the internal combustion engine  
5 being a carburetorless engine and comprising:

a cylinder having a cylinder wall;

a piston mounted in said cylinder to undergo a reciprocating  
movement along a stroke path during operation of said engine;

said cylinder and said piston conjointly delimiting a  
10 combustion chamber;

a crankcase connected to said cylinder;

a crankshaft rotatably mounted in said crankcase;

a connecting rod connecting said piston to said crankshaft  
to permit said piston to drive said crankshaft as said piston  
15 reciprocates in said cylinder;

an outlet for conducting exhaust gases away from said  
combustion chamber;

at least one transfer channel for connecting said combustion  
chamber to said crankcase at predetermined positions of said  
20 piston;

an air channel for supplying combustion air into said crankcase;

a throttle element mounted in said air channel;

a separate fuel inlet in said crankcase;

25 a fuel metering system for metering fuel into said separate fuel inlet;

said fuel metering system including metering means for metering fuel in droplet form or as an emulsion in dependence upon at least one of the position of said throttle element and  
30 the rpm of said engine so as to permit an air/fuel mixture to be prepared in said crankcase; and,

said fuel inlet ~~is~~ being separate from said air channel so as to prevent said fuel from coming together with said combustion air in advance of entry into said crankcase and so as to permit  
35 said air/fuel mixture to be prepared in said crankcase.